

served as a Civil Rights Specialist and External Complaints Coordinator. This experience allowed him to transition to the Department of Labor where he worked as an Equal Opportunity Specialist and Civil Rights Officer. During his time at the Department of Labor, he became Executive Director for a program under the A. Philip Randolph Institute's Educational Fund. Under his leadership, the program pushed for desegregation of labor unions and to provide training for African American men who were historically denied employment in the trades industry.

His commitment to service extended beyond his professional life. Al was deeply involved in local politics and community activism. He was an active member of the Prince William County NAACP branch, the National Urban League, and the Prince William County Democratic Committee.

Al served as Chairman of the Black Democratic Committee for several terms and was coordinator of the PWC Democratic Committee's DMV early voting efforts for many years. During election season, Al would devote entire days to greeting voters at the DMV, passing out literature, and placing and removing candidate signs from the polling place.

Voting rights, community engagement, and grassroots organization motivated Al in all of his endeavors. His efforts of founding the African American Democratic Club helped increase the number of African American elected officials in Prince William County. He was instrumental in numerous campaigns and helped many of Prince William County's current leaders win their elections. Al worked to ensure everyone's voice was heard at the ballot box and he fully understood the power of civic engagement. Because of this work, Al has made our community better.

Madam Speaker, our community has lost a giant public servant, community icon, and a mentor to so many. A loving husband and father, Al spent his life in service to our country and to his community. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the memory and life of my dear friend, Albert Earl Brooks, Sr.

#### HONORING JEFF OLSON AS IOWAN OF THE WEEK

#### HON. CYNTHIA AXNE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 21, 2021*

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jeff Olson, a community pharmacist at Montross Pharmacy, as this week's Iowan of the Week. Since 1995, Jeff has been the owner and operator of Montross Pharmacy in Winterset, Iowa, which this year is celebrating its 100th anniversary.

If you were to ask Jeff what it means to be a community pharmacist, he'd emphasize one word: community. Every day, Jeff works to make sure nobody goes without the care they need—whether that means fielding questions at the pharmacy counter, delivering prescriptions at home, or supporting local health as president of the Madison County Health Trust. Community pharmacies like Montross Pharmacy are mainstays and integral parts of the health care system in our small towns.

When COVID-19 forced us to adapt to different daily routines, Jeff and his staff at

Montross Pharmacy redoubled their commitment to serving Winterset. They knew the pandemic presented a once-in-a-lifetime challenge, but they resolved to get through it together. Together, Montross Pharmacy kept its doors open, providing continued access to pharmacy services for residents in a safe setting. Jeff and his staff were on call 24/7. And, trust me, if there were more than 24 hours in a day to give, they'd have been there.

They also quickly added new services for the community, including thousands of COVID-19 tests and vaccinations. It wasn't always easy. When faced with a vaccine shortage, Jeff took it upon himself to drive six hours to secure more doses for his friends and neighbors. His hard work did not go unnoticed. In fact, one resident—an older woman who had been homebound during the pandemic—exclaimed to Jeff that the vaccine he administered was “the best gift she could receive.”

Jeff and his family have made a lasting mark on Winterset. Decades ago, Jeff's grandfather left his mark by welding on the cupola of the Madison County Courthouse. Today, Jeff is leaving a different kind of mark. In each COVID-19 vaccination he delivers, Jeff sees the things that make Winterset his home—a summer day enjoyed at the pool, a youth sports game, and his kids laughing over lunch with friends.

Jeff's selflessness is truly infectious, and I know that Winterset will see the impact of his hard work for years to come. I am sincerely grateful for Jeff's commitment to his family, friends, and neighbors, and it is my honor to recognize Jeff Olson as Iowan of the Week.

#### ISLAMIC ACADEMY OF SOUTH JERSEY

#### HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 21, 2021*

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, I am here today to speak about a wonderful non-profit, the Islamic Academy of South Jersey. The Islamic Academy of South Jersey first opened in 2014 and is the first and only full-time Islamic school in southern New Jersey. Their goal is to mold students into future leaders through the practice of good manners and the understanding of leadership. The Academy constantly updates their academic curriculum and ensures that the students receive quality education. The Islamic Academy of South Jersey's vision is to teach students to be constructive, helpful, and beneficial in every aspect of their lives so it can be passed along to future generations. I wish the Islamic Academy of South Jersey nothing but success and it is my pleasure to be able to recognize them for their accomplishments.

#### RECOGNIZING LOU KENNEDY

#### HON. RALPH NORMAN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 21, 2021*

Mr. NORMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lou Kennedy and her substantial

contributions to our home state of South Carolina.

A South Carolina native, Lou attended Lexington High School and graduated from the University of South Carolina with a degree in Journalism. Lou has held a variety of marketing and operation roles throughout her career and currently serves as the President, Chief Executive Officer, and Owner of Nephron Pharmaceuticals Corporation, a pharmaceutical manufacturer specializing in Blow-Fill-Seal technology. Lou joined Nephron Pharmaceuticals in 2001 and quickly created a national sales force. She also headed the effort to move the company's headquarters from Orlando to Columbia in 2014, creating over 800 new jobs in the Palmetto State.

Under Lou's leadership, Nephron Pharmaceuticals has experienced unprecedented growth and now employs nearly 2,000 workers. Lou recently announced the expansion of Nephron Pharmaceuticals and the opening of Nephron Nitrile, a new plant that will produce American-made, medical-grade nitrile gloves and will be headquartered in Lexington County. This expansion is a continuation of the Nephron team's efforts to support Governor McMaster's initiative to bring the production of life-saving medications and supplies back home to the United States. Lifelong friend to Lou and CEO of Vikor Scientific, Sam Konduros said there is “not one passive bone in Lou's body . . . she is very action-oriented, and very results-driven.” Lou's long list of accomplishments proves this to be true.

As a mother to a wonderful daughter and two-step daughters, Lou has instilled in her family a strong work ethic and a desire to find ways to succeed. Lou believes that hard work needs to be modeled, and she sets this example for both her family and her employees. You'll often find Lou spending her days in the office working alongside everybody in the plant to create a cohesive, hard-working team.

In addition to her strong professional leadership and go-getter attitude, Lou is an engaged and philanthropic individual. She serves on a variety of business and civic boards, including the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce, the National Association of Manufacturers, and the Palmetto Business Forum. An avid Gamecocks fan, Lou also serves on the USC Athletic Department Board and has generously donated to her alma mater. For example, she and her husband helped establish the Kennedy Pharmacy Innovation Center in conjunction with the USC School of Pharmacy. She is affectionately known as “Cockadoodle Lou” for her financial support and gracious engagement with the institution.

As a testament to her outstanding service, Lou is the recipient of numerous awards and honors, including the Outstanding Leadership Award from the National Association of Manufacturers and the Woman of the Year Award from the South Carolina Manufacturers Alliance. She was also named Ambassador of the Year by the Greater Columbia Chamber of Commerce. Among other honors, Lou also received the Order of the Palmetto, South Carolina's highest civilian honor, from former Governor Nikki Haley.

Lou Kennedy is a remarkable woman whose work has truly made a difference for the Midlands region and for the entire state of South Carolina. On behalf of the 5th Congressional District, I congratulate and thank her for her continued service.

RECOGNIZING THE 2021 NORTHERN VIRGINIA DISTRICT PTA ANNUAL AWARD RECIPIENTS

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 21, 2021*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the 2021 Northern Virginia District PTA Annual Award recipients. Parent Teacher Associations (PTAs) and Parent Teacher Student Associations (PTSAs) in Northern Virginia serve a critical role in helping to provide the best possible educational environment for our students.

The Northern Virginia District PTA represents 225 school PTAs representing 5 school divisions. Maintaining a healthy and strong organization is an important part of allowing these groups to have the greatest possible impact on the students they serve. To encourage such strength, it is important to note the individual PTAs that excel in this mission, as well as the volunteers and educators who support them. It is my honor to include in the RECORD their names:

2021 NOVA District PTA Elementary Volunteers of the Year Honorees: Rebecca Stebbins, Camelot ES PTA; Erin Anderson, Hollin Meadows Science & Math Focus PTA; Jen Blackford, Little Run ES PTA.

2021 NOVA District PTA Secondary Volunteers of the Year Honorees: Shirley Alexander, Kilmer MS PTA; Samantha Mulvaney, Mark Twain MS PTA; Sherry Nachnani, Mount Vernon High School PTSA.

2021 NOVA District PTA Outstanding Educator and Staff Member of the Year Honorees: Ann Jopke, Hollin Meadows Science & Math Focus PTA, Educator; Charlotte Quigley, Little Run ES PTA, Educator; Marion Hawthorne, Arlington Science Focus School PTA, School Counselor; Brittany Belscher, Little Run ES PTA, School Counselor.

2021 NOVA District PTA Excellence in Communications Award Honorees: Jennifer King, Laurel Ridge ES PTA; Andrea Kramer, Thoreau MS PTA; Monique Roberts-Rabil, Oakton HS PTSA; Kara Jenkins, Fairfax County Council PTA.

2021 NOVA District PTA Excellence in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Honorees: Jefferson-Houston PreK-8 IB School PTA; Lyles-Crouch Traditional Academy PTA; Union Mill ES PTA.

2021 NOVA District PTA STEM/STEAM PTA of the Year Award Honorees: Arlington Science Focus School PTA; Hollin Meadows Science & Math Focus PTA.

2021 NOVA District PTA Excellence in Outstanding PTA of the Year Award Honorees: Camelot ES PTA; Great Falls ES PTA; Hollin Meadows Science & Math Focus PTA; Laurel Ridge ES PTA; Union Mill ES PTA; Mount Vernon High School PTSA.

2021 New PTA Charter: Innovation ES PTA, Arlington County.

Congratulations to NOVA District PTA Students earning 2021 National PTA Reflections Awards for this year's theme "I Matter Because. . .": Claire Moon, Outstanding Interpretation, Visual Arts, Rachel Carson MS PTA; Julia Drolet, Award of Merit, Visual Arts, Wolftrap ES PTA; Manya Yellepeddy, Award of Excellence, Dance Choreography, Rachel Carson MS PTA; Isabelle "Trini" Rogando,

Award of Excellence, Literature, Thomas Jefferson HSST PTSA; Charles Nguyen, Award of Excellence, Literature, Special Artist, Lake Braddock SS PTSA; Jake Sizemore, Award of Excellence, Music Composition, Special Artist, Lake Braddock SS PTSA.

A special note of appreciation for dedicated service during 2020-2021 is extended to Hamid Munir, NOVA District Director; Debbie Kilpatrick, Assistant Director; Jason Morgan, Secretary/Treasurer; Julie Shepard, Advocacy Chair; Mary Gauvin, Communications Chair; Mike Woltz, Diversity, Outreach, and Inclusion Chair; Tony Shivers, Education Chair; Denise Bolton, Programs Chair; Martha Coleman, Events Coordinator; Patricia Franck, Special Projects Chair; Kara Jenkins, Fairfax County Council PTA President; Emily Vincent, Arlington County Council PTA President; Bill Pfister, Alexandria City Council PTA President; Pam Croom, Virginia PTA President; and Anna King, National PTA 57th President.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in recognizing the outstanding achievements of the individuals, PTAs and PTSAs that are being honored. Dedicated involvement from so many reflects a strong commitment to public education and community service that students in our schools are fortunate to experience. I offer my strong support for these organizations and their dedicated members and volunteers.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. TOM O'HALLERAN**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 21, 2021*

Mr. O'HALLERAN. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, on July 20, 2021, I was unable to vote on the Motion to Recommit for H.R. 2668, the Consumer Protection and Recovery Act. Had I been present, I would have voted against the Motion to Recommit.

CONGRATULATING LIEUTENANT COLONEL PHILLIP JAMES DEVRIES II ON HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. BILL HUIZENGA**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 21, 2021*

Mr. HUIZENGA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Lieutenant Colonel Phillip James DeVries II on his retirement after 28 years of honorable service to our Nation. I stand with the people of West Michigan in recognizing the tremendous impact Lieutenant Colonel DeVries has had on our Nation and abroad.

Lieutenant Colonel DeVries began his service at West Point, where he was commissioned as Second lieutenant Field Artillery Officer. He then went on to become a Strategic Plans and Policies Officer in the United States Army, where he aided in strategizing and planning the future of the Army. Chosen for his dedication to international affairs, he also had the honor of attending the NATO Defense College, where he gained the experience to participate in multiple international assignments involving 22 countries. Lieutenant Colonel

DeVries was deployed four times throughout his career and faithfully served his country through strategic operations and on the ground.

Lieutenant Colonel Phillip DeVries truly is an American hero, and his service will have a lasting effect both nationally and internationally.

Madam Speaker, it is because of dedicated, honorable individuals such as Lieutenant Colonel Phillip James DeVries II that I am incredibly proud to serve Michigan's 2nd Congressional District. I join with those in West Michigan and around the globe in thanking Lieutenant Colonel DeVries for his many years of service and wish him a happy retirement.

KYLE FRANCIS LEAHY—EAGLE SCOUT

**HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 21, 2021*

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, I want to recognize Kyle Francis Leahy who has been a scout since he was six years old, and recently achieved the rank of Eagle Scout. Kyle demonstrated his leadership skills when he designed and created an outdoor classroom for the Friends School in Mullica Hill, South Jersey. Because of the pandemic, Kyle had minimal assistance while he cleared an 800 foot wooded trail ending in an amphitheater sized classroom. This will allow future generations of students to learn in a natural outdoor environment. Kyle is currently a senior at Tower Hill School in Delaware and plans on attending the University of South Carolina in their Capstone Leadership Program. Kyle wants to study economics and political science and has the hope to attend law school once he graduates from college. I am proud of Kyle and his dedication to his community, and I look forward to seeing what he accomplishes in the future. God Bless Kyle and God Bless America.

RECOGNIZING THE 2021 EXCELLENCE IN SALES HONOREES PRESENTED BY THE INSTITUTE FOR EXCELLENCE IN SALES & BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 21, 2021*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the 2021 recipients of the Lifetime Achievement Award, the Woman in Sales Leadership Award, IES Member of the Year, and the Rising Star Award presented by the Institute for Excellence in Sales & Business Development (IES).

IES was created to foster excellence in business sales and development practices and to help sales professionals and organizations maximize their efforts. IES conducts a variety of workshops and programs designed to provide the knowledge and tools necessary to advance the careers and growth of those who attend. Each year, IES recognizes individuals, teams, and organizations throughout the